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ROTHBURY RURAL DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1962

ROTHBURY RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR


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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1962

To the Chairman and Members of the Rothbury Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my third Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Rothbury Rural District which relates to the year 1962.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of the population remains the same as in the previous year. Likewise, the number of births was exactly the same, and this rate expressed in terms per thousand population is very near to the national level. It is gratifying to note that there were no stillbirths or infant deaths in 1962.

The total number of deaths rose considerably in the year. In fact, there were 85 compared to 60 in the previous year, which gives a rate considerably higher than that which applies to the country as a whole. More than half these deaths were due to cardio-vascular conditions, and this was responsible for some of the increase. There was also a considerable rise in the number of deaths from respiratory conditions. There were, in fact, 10 deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis, predominantly terminal illnesses in elderly people. In the previous year there was only one such death and this increase may well have been due to the first of the recent series of prolonged severe winters. Nearly one death in five was due to malignant conditions.

There were very few infectious diseases in 1962. It may be recalled that in the previous year there was a measles epidemic when 134 cases were notified. As is to be expected, the number of cases was small in the year following this, and in fact, only one occurred. There was only one instance of whooping cough. This disease has decreased most dramatically in recent years following the widespread practise of immunising against this disease in early childhood.

Protective immunisations against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis, and vaccination against smallpox were widely practised by Local Authority staff and general practitioners in the area, and the level of immunity is satisfactory. It will be recalled that a number of cases of smallpox occurred in the United Kingdom in the early part of the year. This led to a very widespread demand for vaccination which is reflected in the considerably increased

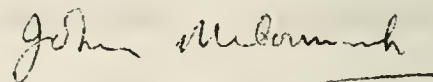
numbers vaccinated in the district during 1962.

The Public Health Inspector mentions in his report that the water supply for the district was taken over by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company during 1962. With few exceptions the supply was adequate in most areas. In a few instances shortages have occurred, and it is satisfactory to note that the Company intend improving the supply for Harbottle and Alwinton in the near future.

It is satisfactory to observe that the spirit of the recent Caravan Act has generally been observed throughout the district.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Clerk of the Council, and the Public Health Inspector for their interest and support for the past year.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 167,186 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 2,111 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 6.

The rateable value was £66,688 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £278.

The estimated mid-year population was 5,330 and this figure was taken when calculating the Birth and Death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	37	39	76
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
Totals	<u>41</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>82</u>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.38
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor	17.37
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.31

Still Births

Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	-
Total live and still births	82

Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)

Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	-
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	-
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births	-
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births	-
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Perinatal Mortality Rate

Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	-
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	-

Deaths:

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
45	40	85

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	15.94
Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor	13.70
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	-
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes	-
Deaths from Cancer	16

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	1	1
" " Lung, Bronchus	4	-	4
" " Breast	-	-	-
" " Uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	5	9
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	5	10	15
Coronary Disease, Angina	8	9	17
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	1	2
Other Heart Disease	5	3	8
Other Circulatory Disease	2	2	4
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	5	-	5
Bronchitis	5	-	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	3	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	4	2	6
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
Totals	<u>45</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>85</u>

INFANT MORTALITY 1919-1938 AND 1949-1962

Year	Number of Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	Infant Mortality England and Wales
1919	2	26.00	89
1920	8	80.10	80
1921	6	60.00	83
1922	1	12.00	77
1923	2	24.00	69
1924	2	25.00	75
1925	1	12.18	75
1926	3	33.30	70
1927	6	95.00	69
1928	7	96.00	65
1929	-	-	74
1930	3	62.50	60
1931	1	12.60	66
1932	3	60.00	65
1933	1	16.10	64
1934	1	12.80	59
1935	7	111.00	57
1936	1	14.08	59
1937	1	12.50	58
1938	-	-	53
1949	4	45.90	32
1950	2	26.60	30
1951	2	23.20	30
1952	-	-	28
1953	1	9.50	27
1954	-	-	25
1955	3	42.25	24.9
1956	1	11.36	24.9
1957	1	12.50	23.1
1958	-	-	22.5
1959	2	20.20	20.7
1960	-	-	21.7
1961	3	36.58	21.4
1962	-	-	21.4

POPULATION

YEAR	POPULATION	YEAR	POPULATION	YEAR	POPULATION
1919	5,600	1931	5,615	1952	5,574
1920	5,507	1932	5,660	1953	5,567
1921	5,968	1933	5,627	1954	5,580
1922	5,963	1934	5,712	1955	5,560
1923	6,011	1935	5,692	1956	5,560
1924	6,093	1936	5,687	1957	5,520
1925	5,959	1937	5,629	1958	5,520
1926	5,877	1938	5,561	1959	5,510
1927	5,877	1939-48	Not Published	1960	5,510
1928	5,808	1949	5,680	1961	5,330
1929	5,888	1950	5,679	1962	5,330
1930	5,767	1951	5,507		

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	4
Whooping Cough	1
Diphtheria	-
Measles	1
Pneumonia	7
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Dysentery	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Food Poisoning	-
Encephalitis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

IMMUNISATION

Primary Immunisation									Secondary (Reinforcing) Injections							
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	6
Diphtheria and Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	23	50	3	-	5	2	-	83	-	-	-	-	2	32	-	34
Totals	23	50	3	-	5	2	-	83	-	-	-	-	3	36	4	43

SMALLPOX VACCINATIONNorth No. 2 Area

Number vaccinated during period							Number re-vaccinated						
District	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total	
Alnwick U.D.	82	6	7	19	60	174	-	-	7	37	188	232	
Alnwick R D.	119	10	5	22	57	213	-	1	7	68	282	358	
Amble U.D.	61	6	16	27	41	151	-	-	-	6	36	42	
Rothbury R.D.	56	10	9	21	16	112	1	-	8	38	143	190	
Totals	318	32	37	89	174	650	1	1	22	149	649	822	

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATIONNorth No. 1 & 2 Areas

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1962.

			<u>Number of Persons</u>
Two Injections	-	Salk Vaccine	608
Third Booster	-	Salk Vaccine	470
Fourth Booster	-	Salk Vaccine	85
Three doses	-	Oral Vaccine	915
Booster dose oral after two Salk injections			1,495
Booster dose oral after three Salk injections			583

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR1962WATER SUPPLIES

The supplies previously maintained by the Council were transferred to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company by an Order under Section 9 of the Water Act, 1945. The date of transfer was 1st April, 1962, and since then the Company have maintained the supplies in their original form.

Differential charges over a period of seven years were secured, thus softening the blow of increased charges. The Company will provide, in due course, a new supply for Alwinton.

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

The disposal works at Longframlington, Whittingham and that serving the Council houses at Thropton, continue to function satisfactorily.

The preliminary drawings of the proposed new works at Rothbury have been prepared and a detailed study is now being made of the existing sewers.

It has not been possible to begin work at Wingates although tenders have been invited. Settlement has not yet been reached on the land required.

HOUSING

No Council houses were built during the year. Six were built by private owners.

The total number of Council houses in the district remains at 290.

Crown Cottage, Elsdon, has been permanently discontinued as a dwelling, and is now part of the farm buildings.

Twenty houses were made fit during the year as a result of informal action.

Thirteen applications were received and approved for Discretionary Grants. The average grant paid during the year was £243. Up to 31st December, 1962, 302 grants have been given. There is a steady falling off in the number of applications received. Eight Standard Grants have been paid during the year averaging £82 per house. The number of houses provided with baths was 5, with wash basins 5, hot water supply 3, water closets 8, and food store 3.

FOOD

The new slaughterhouse of Messrs. Mackay and Proudlock, and the improved premises of Messrs. N. Wilson and Sons were completed and brought into use during the year. There is now a considerable improvement in the hygiene of meat, and welfare of the animals.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The district wide service now having completed its first full year has been a big success. Difficulties are experienced during inclement weather in the out-by places, these however are overcome by the willing co-operation of the householders and our men. Keeping tips tidy is extremely difficult, owing to the nature of the refuse, and the fact that the men tip only at fortnightly intervals on some of the tips.

CARAVANS

The number of people wishing to station their caravans in this district continues to increase. Sites are at a premium, and with the expected closing down of some private sites during 1963 the general position will become acute. Our own site holding 58 vans is operating very smoothly, and works of improvement are gradually being carried out. During the year a new road was laid into the site and additional water points installed.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949					
	Type of Property - Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	Local Authority	Dwell-ing Houses	All other (Including Business Premises)	Total of Columns 1, 2 and 3	
1. Number of properties in district	12	1858	118	1988	241
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notifications	-	18	1	19	-
(b) Survey under the Act	10	13	-	23	-
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	18	18	-
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	36	31	32	99	-
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec.2) which were found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats	10	20	1	31	-
(b) Mice	-	1	-	1	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 4) treated by Local Authority	10	21	1	32	-
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	36	43	3	82	-

FACTORIES ACT 1937 & 1948Part 1 of the Act1. INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	1	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	8	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	4	-	-
Totals	22	12	-	-

2. CASES in which defects were found - None

